CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: 05_1.mpg

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 802049

Medium: Computer Moving Image File

Distributor: Not stated

Director: Not stated

Producer: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: Not stated

Applicant: District Court At North Shore

Classification: Objectionable.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 26 February 2009

Date of direction to

issue a label:

No direction to issue a label has been issued

	Components	Running time
Timed component(s):	05_1.mpg	0:27
Total running time:		0:27

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer moving image file 05_1.mpg promotes and supports the infliction of extreme violence and extreme cruelty.

The material on the file depicts the killing of two men in cold blood. The gruesome images presented have no adequate context and no other purpose than to titillate and entertain viewers. The availability of such material encourages the acceptance of acts of torture, extreme violence and cruelty and the formation or reinforcement of the type of attitudes that could lead to such acts.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's clear intention in s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993. The classification is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that promote and support acts of torture and the infliction of extreme violence or extreme cruelty.